Application No. 10/001,737

Amendment dated December 9, 2003

Reply to Office Action dated October 20, 2003

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, second paragraph as

being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner has indicated

that claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in step (b), --a second reaction stage-- as

opposed to "the second reactor stage".

This amendment has been made to overcome the rejection that the phrase, "the

second reactor stage" possessed insufficient antecedent basis.

Line 2 of claim 1 recites "at least two reaction stages" Step (b) should have recited

"a second reaction stage".

It is the position of the applicant that the claims, as now amended, are in condition

for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the claims be passed to

allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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PLPrater:jlc Enclosures

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